

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANTIA 06000 092359Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----020352 100011Z /62
O 092124Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 128
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SANTIAGO 6000

STADIS////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

FOR ARA, D, P, AND L ONLY

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CI, PGOV, SHUM
SUBJECT: LETELIER/MOFFITT ASSASSINATION CASE: CHILEAN AMBASSADOR
TO ROMANIA, CARLOS VALENZUELA

REFS: (A) BUCHAREST 5503, (B) STATE 200651

1. WE HAVE ASKED A SENIOR FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL IF THERE IS ANY TRUTH TO THE RUMOR THAT VALENZUELA WILL BE COMING BACK TO TAKE A JOB RELATED TO THE LETELIER CASE. THE SOURCE REPLIED THERE IS NO TRUTH TO SUCH A REPORT. WE ARE NOT SURE WHETHER THIS MEANS VALENZUELA IS STAYING IN BUCHAREST, BUT THE MESSAGE WAS CLEAR THAT HE WILL NOT BE COMING BACK HERE TO TAKE UP THE KIND OF POSITION DESCRIBED IN REFTTEL A.

2. LOOKING THROUGH THE EMBASSY FILE ON VALENZUELA, WE FIND HE HAS A RATHER MIXED RECORD. WHILE THE BULK IS FAVORABLE, AND THE MAN HAS OBVIOUSLY HELD IMPORTANT POSITIONS, HE WAS ONCE INVOLVED IN A MURDER TRIAL AS A DEFENDANT AND HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS "AMORAL" AND A "CHARMING LIAR."

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PAGE 02 SANTIA 06000 092359Z

3. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO POLITICAL COUNSELOR TIPTON FOR HIS DETAILED REPORT ON VALENZUELA. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE AND CONCURRING WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S TENTATIVE APPRAISAL, WE BELIEVE IT BEST NOT TO PURSUE THIS MATTER FURTHER WITH VALENZUELA.
LANDAU

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: ASSASSINATION, AMBASSADORS
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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